

articulate outboard of the motor vehicle about hinge 20. Hinge 20 permits windowpane 11 to pivot about axis 22 from a closed position to an open position and back.

[0035] From the foregoing disclosure and detailed description of certain preferred embodiments, it will be apparent that various modifications, additions and other alternative embodiments are possible without departing from the true scope and spirit of the invention. The embodiments discussed were chosen and described to provide the best illustration of the principles of the invention and its practical application to thereby enable one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize the invention in various embodiments and with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated. All such modifications and variations are within the scope of the invention as determined by the appended claims when interpreted in accordance with the breadth to which they are fairly, legally, and equitably entitled.

THE INVENTION AS CLAIMED IS:

1. An articulating window assembly adapted for use with a support structure, the assembly comprising, in combination:
 - a windowpane having an inner surface;
 - an attachment member adjacent the inner surface, the attachment member including:
 - a first member; and
 - a second member adjacent the first member, the second member having a pivot axis, the first member and second member forming a hinged joint; and
 - a polymeric member surrounding a portion of the hinged joint and adjacent to the windowpane, the windowpane adapted to rotate about the pivot axis from a first position to a second position.
2. The articulating window assembly of claim 1 wherein the polymer member having a portion forming a cavity around a portion of the attachment member.
3. The articulating window assembly of claim 1 wherein the polymeric material is one of an elastomer, a thermoplastic, a thermoset plastic and a polyurethane.
4. The articulating window assembly of claim 1 wherein the attachment member having a cylindrical rod portion, and wherein the first member having an arcuate support portion to cradle the rod therein to permit the articulation of the hinged joint.
5. The articulating window assembly of claim 4, wherein the first member is a plate.
6. The articulating window assembly of claim 1 wherein the first member having one of a planar portion and an arcuate surface to engage the second member.
7. The articulating window of claim 1, wherein the attachment member is threadably attached to the support structure.
8. The articulating window of claim 1, wherein the polymeric member is bonded to the inner surface.
9. An articulating window assembly adapted to for use with a support structure, the assembly comprising, in combination:
 - a windowpane having an inner surface;
 - a hinge member adjacent to the inner surface, the hinge having a cylindrical member having a pivot axis, and a stud member attached to the cylindrical member; and
 - a polymeric member surrounding at least a portion of the hinge member so as to permit the hinge member to articulate about the pivot axis.

10. The articulating window assembly of claim 9, wherein the cylindrical member having a longitudinal portion articulating about the pivot axis.

11. The articulating window assembly of claim 9, wherein the stud member having a longitudinal axis being offset from the pivot axis.

12. The articulating window assembly of claim 9, wherein the stud member being connected to the support structure.

13. The articulating window assembly of claim 9, wherein the cylindrical member having a portion forming an axle about which the cylindrical member pivots.

14. The articulating window assembly of claim 9, wherein said hinge member including:

a reinforcement plate adjacent to the hinge member.

15. The articulating window assembly of claim 14, wherein the reinforcement plate having at least one arcuate portion to support the cylindrical member and adapted to cradle the cylindrical member, therein.

16. The articulating window assembly of claim 14, further including a sleeve interposed the reinforcement plate and the axle.

17. An articulating window assembly adapted for use with a support structure, the assembly comprising in combination:

a windowpane having an inner surface;

a hinge adjacent to the windowpane and having a pivot axis; and

a polymeric member encapsulating a portion of the hinge so as to permit the windowpane to pivot about the pivot axis from a closed position to an open position.

18. The articulating window assembly of claim 17, wherein the hinge member having a base member, a cylindrical member and a stud extending from the cylindrical member.

19. The articulating window assembly of claim 15, wherein the hinge further having a sleeve on the cylindrical member and wherein the polymeric member having a portion forming a cavity adjacent to the stud.

20. The articulating window assembly of claim 18, wherein the base member disposed in the polymeric member and adjacent the cylindrical member to permit articulation of the hinge about the pivot axis.